GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:452
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2000
GROUND WATER
DALPAT SINGH PARASTE;SRINIVASULU KALAVA

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that water level in several parts of the country is declining alarmingly, particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to establish national hydrological stations in States, particularly in Andhra Pradesh to monitor the level of ground water;

(c) whether the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has prepared any report in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENTREFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PARTS (a) to (d) OF LOKSABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.452 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2000

The long term observations made by the Central Ground Water Board have shown a situation of fall in the level of ground water in various parts of the country. The names of the States/districts having pockets where fall in the ground water level for more than 4 metre (1980-99) has been observed are indicated in Annexure. Fall in the level of ground water ranging from 0.40 to 2.32 metre during pre-monsoon and from 0.05 to 4.0 metre in post-monsoon period in the State of Andhra Pradesh has been observed during (1980-99).

The Central Ground Water Board has established 14,981 national hydrological monitoring stations in various States to monitor the ground water level. The number of national hydrological monitoring stations set up by the Central Ground Water Board in Andhra Pradesh is 1100, while the State Ground Water Organisation has established 3611 monitoring stations in Andhra Pradesh.

It is not the function of Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) to prepare reports regarding water levels with the data provided by the hydrological monitoring stations. The Central Ground Water Authority has been set up under the Environment(Protection) Act, 1986 for the purpose of regulation and control of ground water management and development.

It is the Central Ground Water Board, which prepares reports onthe water level on the basis of measurements taken from the national hydrological monitoring stations four times in a year and a "year book" is prepared by the end of the year.

Water being a State subject, steps to check the declining trend in ground water level is to be taken by the State Governments. In order to prevent the decline in the levels of ground water, the Government of Andhra Pradeshhave taken up recharging measures under the Neeru-Meeru Programmesince May, 2000. The first phase of this programme is completed. The State Governmenti s also implementing various watershed development programmes.

The Central Ground Water Board has sanctioned five artificial recharge schemes in the State of Andhra Pradeshunder the Central Sector Scheme on artificial recharge of ground water. The Central Ground Water Authority has also organised mass awareness programmes in the districts of Nalgonda and Mehboobnagar about the need for protection and conservation of ground water.

The other steps taken by the Central Government to check decline in the ground water level include:-

(i) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authorityunder the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.

(ii) Circulation of a Model Bill to all the States/Union Territories, to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.

(iii) Circulation of Manual on artificial recharge of ground water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area

specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.

(iv) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme on studies in artificial recharge of ground water in some 'Over-exploited' and 'Dark' blocks of the country.

NAMEOF THE STATE/DISTRICT HAVING POCKETS WITH FALLGROUND WATER LEVEL OF MORE THAN 4 METRE (1980-99)

SL.NO.	STATE	DISTRICTS
1.	ANDHRA PRADESH	Shrikakulam, Chittor
2.	BIHAR	East Singhbhum, Ranchi, Samastipur, Chapra, Dharbhanga
3.	HARYANA	Kurushetra, Kaithal, Mehandargarh, Jind
4.	KARNATAKA	Bijapur, Belgaum, Dharwar, Bellari, Shimoga, Bangalore, Mysore, Gulbarga
5.	MADHYA PRADESH	Ujjain, Dewas, Shajahanpur, Dhar, Sagar, Bilaspur, Raipur, Surguja, Guna, Narsinghpur
6.	MAHARASHTRA	Akola, Nagpur, Jalgaon, Osmanabad, Satara, Aurangabad, Sangli, Buldhana, Amravati
7	ORISSA	Koraput, Mayurbhanj
8.	PUNJAB	Amritsar, Jallandhar, Ferozpur, Ludhiana, Patiala, Sangrur, Faridkot, Fatehgarh.
9.	RAJASTHAN	Nagaur, Bikaner, Jaipur
10.	TAMIL NADU	Salem, South Arcot, Coimbatore, Madurai, Tanjavour, Paddukottai, Kamrajar, Thirunaganar
11.	UTTAR PRADESH	Gonda, Farukhabad, Lucknow, Kanpur, Fetehpur, Allahabad, Banda, Nainital
12.	WEST BENGAL	Purlia, Midnapur